



**U.S. Department of Justice  
U.S. Attorney's Office  
Western District of Texas**

**Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS CASE RESULTS IN FEDERAL PRISON TIME**

**United States Attorney Johnny Sutton** announced that in Waco this morning, Larry Lamar Evans of Copperas Cove, Texas, was sentenced to 64 years and four months in federal prison for drug and firearms violations. In addition to the prison term, U.S. District Judge Walter S. Smith, Jr., ordered that Evans pay a \$4,000 fine.

On January 31, 2005, authorities executed a search warrant at Evans' residence. Upon entering the residence, they found Evans in the kitchen reaching for a handgun that was on the counter. In addition to the handgun, other items seized included 3.58 grams of crack cocaine, packaging material and a digital scale found in the kitchen; a digital scale and a second handgun found in the garage; and, a Cobray M11 machine gun, a Cobray silencer, a loaded clip and extra ammunition in a gun case in a closet by the front door.

On July 19, 2005, a federal jury convicted Evans of one count each of possession of a firearm by a convicted felon, possession with intent to distribute crack cocaine and possession of firearms during a drug trafficking crime. A witness testified at trial that he had seen Evans with the machine gun and that Evans had fired the machine gun in his direction. A second witness testified that Evans told him he had flushed a cookie of crack cocaine prior to the officers entry, that he had been dealing crack for about the last year, that Evans said he carried the machine gun when he went to get crack and that he intended to trade the machine gun for a kilogram of crack. A third witness testified that Evans told him he sold crack cocaine and that he had the machine gun for protection.

"The possession of a machine gun alone, with its mandatory 30-year sentence, ensured that Mr. Evans will call federal prison his home for the remainder of his life," stated United States Attorney Johnny Sutton.

This case was investigated by the Central Texas Narcotics Task Force and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. Special Assistant United States Attorney Shelly Strimple prosecuted this case on behalf of the government. The prosecution of this case is another example of how the U.S. Attorney's Office for the Western District of Texas is carrying out the Department of Justice's gun crime initiative - Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN). Project Safe Neighborhoods is a nationwide federal initiative designed to reduce gun violence in our communities. PSN promotes partnerships among federal, state, and local law enforcement to target criminals in possession of guns. Federal law insures that when an armed criminal is arrested, that individual will face swift criminal prosecution and be exiled from the community through the use of stiff mandatory prison sentences.

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